

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
THE LEMON GROVE CITY COUNCIL**

**The City Council also sits as the Lemon Grove Housing Authority, Lemon Grove
Sanitation District Board, Lemon Grove Roadway Lighting District Board, and
Lemon Grove Successor Agency**

April 7, 2015

Call to Order

Members present: Mary Sessom, George Gastil, Jerry Jones, Jennifer Mendoza, and Racquel Vasquez.
Members absent: None.

City Staff present: Graham Mitchell, City Manager; Carol Dick, Development Services Director;
Daryn Drum, Division Fire Chief; Susan Garcia, City Clerk; James P. Lough, City Attorney; Mike
James, Public Works Director; Lt. May, Sheriff's Department; Tamara O' Neal, Interim City
Engineer; and Cathleen Till, Finance Director.

Presentations

Dave Schumacher, SANDAG, provided a presentation of the Regional Comprehensive Plan.

Melanie Briones, HEAL Zone Director, provide an update presentation.

Public Comment

Steven Melendez reported on a small business he would like to open at his residence.

Michael Collins provided the City Council with a promotional DVD of his business.

Lorenzo Higley, CASA, reported that his agency has provided Lemon Grove businesses with
tobacco sales information packets.

Denise Strattman, Analisa Howard, Rosa Carnus, and Elijah Gordon commented on their
interest in developing recreation programs in Lemon Grove along with a recreation council.

1. Consent Calendar

A. Approval of City Council Minutes

March 17, 2015 Regular Meeting

B. Ratification of Payment Demands

C. Waive Full Text Reading of All Ordinances and Resolutions on the Agenda

D. Mass Decontamination Unit Agreement

**Action: Motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Vasquez, to
approve the Consent Calendar passed, by the following vote:**

Ayes: Sessom, Gastil, Jones, Mendoza, Vasquez

Resolution No. 2015-3326: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California Approving an Agreement for Temporary Transfer of a Mass Decontamination Unit to the City

2. 2015 City Council Priorities

Graham Mitchell reported that on February 24, 2015, the City Council held a Strategic Planning Retreat, facilitated by Peter B. Stark. Prior to facilitating the retreat, Mr. Stark met individually with Councilmembers and department directors to gauge concerns and interests regarding City Council priorities for the upcoming year. The purpose of the February 24th retreat was to begin a dialogue on common visions shared by City leaders and to identify priorities that garnered consensus.

The City Council discussed the following priorities and tasks for the upcoming year:

Economic Development

- Continue working with the East County Chamber of Commerce and the East County Economic Development Council on business support and attraction;
- Support Lemon Grove businesses and property owners in the formation of an assessment district to provide enhanced services (security, cleaning, marketing);
- Identify niche business types that could be attracted to the heavy commercial/industrial zones.

City Appearance

- Develop and implement a plan to address graffiti more effectively;
- Develop and implement a plan to address litter;
- Conduct City Council discussion regarding potential code enforcement target issues in commercial areas;
- Conduct City Council discussion regarding design standard in commercial areas.

Infrastructure

- Complete existing capital projects;
- Conduct City Council discussion regarding sidewalk incentive program;
- Enhance appearance of the City's Capital Improvement Program.

Public Safety

- Conduct City Council discussion regarding "deemed approved" ordinance, "single serve" policies, and "crime prevention through environmental design" policies;
- Presentation to the City Council from the Sheriff's Department regarding body worn cameras, license plate reader program, and the facial recognition program;
- Promote Crime Free Multi-Housing Program;
- Develop a program and strategies to increase the perception of safety in the City.

General Plan

Provide a City Council presentation regarding the General Plan update process, which will include the required update elements, critical steps, a cost breakdown, and funding opportunities;

Establish a General Plan Advisory Group with Planning Commissioners and other appointees.

Recreational Opportunities

Establish a Focus Group to explore a potential Recreation Council;

Consider a revised Joint Use Agreement between the School District for public use of fields and courts behind the Recreation Center during non-school hours;

Continue to explore recreation partners.

Mr. Mitchell stated that he will bring back a workplan for the upcoming year.

Public Speaker(s)

There were no requests from the public to speak.

3. Rejection of Bids for Sewer CIP Upsizing Project

Tamara O'Neal stated that in 2013, a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Update was presented, which included the need to create a new project to rehabilitate sanitary sewer mains, including replacement, upsizing and repairs. On January 22, bid documents for the project (Contract No. 2015-02) were advertised in the East County Californian, online at eBidboard, and the City's website.

The engineer's estimate for this project was \$1,215,830. The low bid was submitted by MJC Construction Corp. for \$1,018,006.50. After staff reviewed the low bid, it was determined that the required reference information was incomplete and that not all projects referenced were within the three-year time frame stipulated in the specifications. Review of the second lowest bid revealed a similar irregularity with respect to the referenced projects being completed outside of the required three-year time frame.

Due to the large dollar amount between the two lowest bidders and the third bidder, staff recommends that all bids received at the February 25 bid opening be rejected, and that the project be re-advertised allowing projects that were completed within the last five years to be submitted for reference.

The Municipal Code and the bid document allows the District to reject all bids and staff believes that this measure will result in a significant savings to the District.

Public Speaker(s)

There were no requests from the public to speak.

Action: Motion by Board Member Jones, seconded by Board Member Vasquez, to approve the Consent Calendar passed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Sessom, Gastil, Jones, Mendoza, Vasquez

Resolution No. 2015-272: Resolution of the Lemon Grove Sanitation District Board of Directors Rejecting All Bids Received for the Sewer CIP Upsizing Project

City Council Oral Comments and Reports on Meetings Attended at the Expense of the City. (GC 53232.3 (d))

Councilmember Jones attended Metro Wastewater and SANDAG meetings.

Councilmember Mendoza attended a meeting at ECEDC, and reported that Padre Dam's Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Facility will be open for tours on April 10th, the Water Conservation Garden Spring Garden Festival is planned for April 25th and the Butterfly Festival for May 9th. She attended the Deputy Sheriff's Association event honor to Bill Kolender, a meeting of the new Lions Club, the San Diego Cesar Chavez Commemoration breakfast, and Thrive Lemon Grove and Lemon Grove Crosswalk meetings. She participated in the Lemon Grove clean-up, spoke at the Mt. Miguel Women's Empowerment Conference and commented on the upcoming Walk to Work Day.

Councilmember Gastil attended a FAST Board meeting and the San Diego Cesar Chavez Commemoration breakfast.

Mayor Pro Tem Vasquez attended meetings of the City County Reinvestment Task Force, Heal Zone Resident Leadership Academy Alumni, Thrive Lemon Grove and LAFCO, and the San Diego Cesar Chavez Commemoration breakfast, and participated in a tour of Heartland Fire Training Facility.

Closed Session

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6: Conference with Labor Negotiators
Agency Designated Representative: Graham Mitchell, City Manager
Employee Organization: Local 2728 of the International Association of Firefighters

Conference with Legal Counsel- Existing Litigation Pursuant to Subdivision (a) of
Government Code Section 54956.9:
The Affordable Housing Coalition of San Diego County v. Sandoval
Case No. 34-2012-80001158-CU-WM-GDS

Closed Session Report: No reportable action was taken.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Housing Authority, Sanitation District Board, Lemon Grove Roadway Lighting District Board, and the Lemon Grove Successor Agency the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Susan Garcia

Susan Garcia, City Clerk